

REMARKS

Claims 1-65 remain in the case.

In the Office action of September 7, 2005, the Examiner cited the combination of Flanagan USP 6,128,661 and Adbelaziz US Application 2003/0041141 in rejecting claims 1-65 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Before addressing the grounds for rejection, the Applicants would like to draw the Examiner's attention to some of the novel and unobvious features of their claimed invention.

The Applicants' claimed invention distributes a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices in an ad hoc network. The Applicants accomplish this distribution with the claimed name distribution messages, which are distributed by the wireless devices in the ad hoc network. The name distribution messages include at least one user-defined name and an operation code that causes the receiving device in the ad hoc network to select an operation relating to a user-defined name that does not conflict with other member device names in the ad hoc network. A comparison is made to automatically resolve any name conflict and a user-defined name that does not conflict is automatically made a part of a user name record in the receiving device. The selected operation specified by the operation code can be, for example, to add a new device, delete a device, change the name of a device, substitute a new name manager table, specify security attributes for distributing the name, specify display attributes for displaying the name, or specify name flash display attributes for remotely flashing the displayed name. The combination of disclosures referred to by the Examiner in the Flanagan and Adbelaziz references fails to disclose or suggest this claimed feature, among other features of the invention.

The Flanagan reference does not disclose distributing a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices in an ad hoc network, as claimed by the Applicant.

Flanagan discloses a partnered desktop computer 4 with a data storage 8 and mobile devices 3A and 3B, each mobile device having a data storage 6. The system disclosed in Flanagan synchronizes the data in data storage 6 in mobile device 3A and the data in data storage

8 in the partnered desktop computer 4. The user of mobile device 3A establishes a connection with the partnered desktop computer 4 by selecting the name “BettyBo” of the partnered desktop computer 4 from a dropdown field 204 in the interface 200 shown in Figs. 7 and 9 and described at column 9, line 61 to column 10, line 8. The name of the partnered desktop computer 4 selected by the user is stored at location 95 of the memory 90 in the user’s mobile device 3A shown in Fig. 3A and described at column 7, lines 60-64. The user can select the particular desktop computer 4 to which connection is desired from a number of computer name options “BettyBo” and “Jimbo” displayed in the drop down field 204 shown in FIG. 9 and actuate the connect button in FIGs. 7 and 9, as indicated by functional block 210 in FIG. 6A.

Flanagin’s mobile device 3A is disclosed as attempting to locate the desired partnered desktop computer 4 having the selected computer name, following the flow diagram of Fig. 6A. The computer name stored in the mobile device 3A is compared with the computer name stored on the desktop computer 4. Interaction between the connected mobile device 3A and the desktop computer 4 is controlled as a function of the stored set of settings if corresponding computer names are found. Flanagin is merely searching for matches of device names and when the names match, a connection can be made, but if the names do not match, then a connection is not made. The Flanagin reference does not disclose distributing a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices, as claimed by the Applicant.

Flanagin clearly states that the "device name" at 93 is given by the user at Flanagin’s column 7, line 56 to column 8, line 4, but there is no disclosure or suggestion in Flanagin relating to distributing that name to other devices that the device has partnered with. The Flanagin reference at column 7, line 56 to column 8, line 4 reads as follows:

“In one embodiment, the identifier stored at 91A corresponds to one of the profile areas 13A or 13B in the desktop computer 4, while the identifier stored at 91B corresponds to a profile area in another desktop computer. In a further embodiment, the mobile device 3A also stores a "Device Name" at 93 given by the user, as well as names at 95 and 99 of one or more desktop computers 4 that the mobile device 3A has been partnered with. If desired, this information can be stored in a part of the registry 97 or stored separately from the registry 97. In one embodiment, the desktop computer 4 stores similar information, including the name of the desktop computer 4, and for each partnership, the identifiers at 15A and 159 and the respective device names at 16A and 16B of each partnered mobile device 3A or 3B.”

Moreover, Flanagin's operation of searching for matches of device names is the opposite of comparing names to automatically resolve any name conflict, as claimed by the Applicants. In Applicant's claimed invention, a user-defined name that matches with another member device name in the ad hoc network results in automatically substituting an alternate name for the user-defined name. Thus, the disclosure in Flanagin teaches away from the Applicants' claimed invention.

The Adbelaziz reference also does not disclose distributing a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices, as claimed by the Applicant.

Adbelaziz discloses wired or wireless network wherein peer devices in the network search with a query for other peer devices in the network, disclosed for example at page 44, paragraph [0739] to page 46, paragraph [0785]. The Adbelaziz reference does not disclose distributing a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices in an ad hoc network, as claimed by the Applicant.

Moreover, Adbelaziz's operation of searching for devices is the opposite of comparing names to automatically resolve any name conflict, as claimed by the Applicants. In Applicant's claimed invention, a user-defined name that matches with another member device name in the ad hoc network results in automatically substituting an alternate name for the user-defined name. Thus, the disclosure in Adbelaziz teaches away from the Applicants' claimed invention.

The combination of Flanagin and Adbelaziz fails to disclose or suggest the Applicant's invention claimed in claims 1-65. The combination of Flanagin and Adbelaziz reference does not disclose or suggest distributing a user-defined name of a user's wireless device to a plurality of member wireless devices in an ad hoc network, as claimed by the Applicant. Moreover, in Applicant's claimed invention, a user-defined name that matches with another member device name in the ad hoc network results in automatically substituting an alternate name for the user-defined name. The combination of Flanagin and Adbelaziz teaches away from the Applicants' claimed invention since Flanagin and Adbelaziz search for matching device names to make a connection, which is the opposite of the Applicant's claimed comparing names to automatically resolve a name conflict by substituting alternates when the names match. The disclosures in the combination of Flanagin and Adbelaziz teach away from the Applicants' claimed invention.

By the above remarks, the Applicants believe they have addressed and resolved all of the grounds for rejection raised by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the claims now in the case, allow all claims, and pass the case to issue.


AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4004. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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